

John Romans Barn (1804 Barn)
West side of Star Gazer Road (LR 15072),
.1 mile south of Strasburg Road (LR 15080)
Romansville (West Bradford Township)
Chester County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-165

HABS
PA
15-ROMAV,
2A-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
JOHN ROMANS BARN
(1804 BARN)

HABS No. PA-165
PA
15-ROMAV,
2A-

Location: On County Road #15072, south of County Road #15180, West Bradford Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania. (Reference: Map of Chester County by County Commissioners/ 1956).

Present Owner: Albert L. Anderson, Coatesville R. D. #4, Pennsylvania.

Brief Statement of Significance: This barn, with 1804 date stone, has been little altered and contains the series of ventilating slots usually found in earlier barns.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: Peter Z. Lloyd 1800 to John Romans; his exec. 1841 to Thos. Baldwin; his exec. 1861 to Moses Romans; who sold it 1861 to John R. Baldwin; whose exec. sold it 1910 to Walter J. Baldwin; who sold 1910 to Anna M. Baldwin; willed by her 1933 to Esther E. Marsh; sold by her exec. 1939 to Marshall Cook; who sold 1940 to Robert W. Hurlbrink; who sold 1944 to Norristown Production Credit Ass.; who sold it back same year, and he sold same year to Albert L. Anderson.
2. Date of erection: 1804.
3. Architect, builder, suppliers etc.: Architect, unknown. Built by John and Mary Romans.
4. Original plans, construction etc.: Unknown.
5. Notes on alterations and additions: Little alterations or additions, if even changed.
6. Important old views and references
Views: None known.
References: Sources of information: Clipping and manuscript files in the Chester County Historical Society under the heading West Bradford Twp. Lands, and the offices of the Recorder of Deeds and the Orphans Court in Court House, West Chester, Pa.

- B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: Structure has a good dated stone and is a bank barn of local field stone, with no additions. It has the series of ventilating slots usually found in earlier barns. The barn was actually in one family line from its building in 1804 by John Romans until the death of his great granddaughter Anna M. Baldwin in 1933.

C. Likely Sources Not Yet Investigated: None known.

Prepared by Bart Anderson - May 1959
Curator, Chester County Historical Society

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character: There have been few, if any, changes in the structure of this barn since erection.
2. Condition of Fabric: Stone is good; frame poor to fair.

B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: Three levels; 46'-6" by 44'-6".
2. Foundations: Stone.
3. Wall construction: Field stone.
4. Chimneys: None.
5. Openings
 - a. Doorways and doors: All original.
 - b. Windows and shutters: Original - sash gone.
6. Roof
 - a. Shape, covering: Gable roof with wood shingles.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Original.
 - c. Dormers: None.

C. Technical Description of Interiors

1. Floor Plans: Usual South East Pennsylvania barn plan with stables and yard on lower level, threshing floor next high level, and mows above that.
2. Stairways: Original, from stable floor to threshing floor.
3. Flooring: Original.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: None.

5. Doorways and doors: Original.
6. Trim: None.
7. Hardware: Original.
8. Lighting: None.
9. Heating: None.

D. Site

1. General setting and orientation: Barn is set very close to country road. Gable end with date stone faces east, with barn yard to the south.
2. Enclosures: None.
3. Outbuildings: Several houses standing on the farm, including log ones.
4. Walks, driveways etc.: None.
5. Landscaping, gardens etc.: None.

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